

Claims

1. A method for reserving network resources within an IP network, wherein the
5 resources are reserved by a resource manager for an application or a group of
applications within a time interval defined by a start-time and a stop-time,
characterised in that the method comprises the step of:
-*guaranteeing* said resources between said start-time and said stop-time, and
-*keeping* said resources for the application after said stop-time has expired if
10 said application still needs resources.
2. Method according to claim 1, **characterised** in that all resource reservations are
utilising a common pool of resources.
- 15 3. Method according to claim 1, **characterised** in that the resource manager is
keeping a list of active reservations that have expired said stop-time.
4. Method according to claim 1, **characterised** in that individual start- and stop-
time are set for each application by an application client.
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5. Method according to claim 1, **characterised** in that individual start- and stop-
time are set for each application by the resource manager.
6. Method according to claim 1, **characterised** in that said start-time is set to the
25 current time.
7. Method according to claim 6, **characterised** in that said stop-time is set to the
current time.
- 30 8. Method according to any of claims 1 and 6, **characterised** in that said stop-time
is set to infinity.
9. Method according to claim 1, **characterised** in that charging of said resources is
based on the amount of guaranteed resources.
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10. Method according to claim 1, **characterised** in that said resources are related to the bandwidth.
- 5 11. A computer program product directly loadable into an internal memory of a router or a server within an IP network comprising the software code portions for performing the steps of claims 1-10.
- 10 12. A computer program product stored on a computer usable medium, comprising readable program for causing a resource manager in a server or a router within an IP network to control the execution of the steps of claims 1-10.
- 15 13. A resource manager for reserving network resources within an IP network, wherein said resource manager comprises means for reserving resources for an application or a group of applications within a time interval defined by a start-time and a stop-time, **characterised** in that said resource manager comprises means for guaranteeing said resources between said start-time and said stop-time, and means for keeping said resources for the application after said stop-time has expired if said application still needs the resources.
- 20 14. Resource manager according to claim 13, **characterised** in that all resource reservations are utilising a common pool of resources.
- 25 15. Resource manager according to claim 13, **characterised** in that said resource manager comprises means for keeping a list of active reservations that have expired said stop-time.
- 30 16. Resource manager according to claim 13, **characterised** in that said resource manager comprises means for allowing the each application client to set individual start- and stop-time for said application.
- 35 17. Resource manager according to claim 13, **characterised** in that said resource manager comprises means for setting individual start- and stop-time for each application.
18. Resource manager according to claim 13, **characterised** in that said resource manager comprises means for setting said start-time to the current time.

19. Resource manager according to claim 18, **characterised** in that said resource manager comprises means for setting said stop-time to the current time.

5 20. Resource manager according to any of claims 13 and 18, **characterised** in that said resource manager comprises means for setting said stop-time to infinity.

10 21. Resource manager according to claim 13, **characterised** in that said resource manager comprising means for basing the charging of said resources on the amount of guaranteed resources.

22. Resource manager according to claim 13, **characterised** in that said resources are related to the bandwidth.